

It is Applicant's understanding that no amendment has ever been entered to the Office Action dated February 16, 2007, because the attempted amendment on August 10, 2007 by Applicant was rejected as noncompliant, and the attempted amendment by Applicant dated January 1, 2008 lacked the requisite fee. Accordingly, Applicant's current response addresses the requirements set forth in the Office Action dated February 16, 2007 and provides the appropriate extension fee that has not yet been paid for the three-month extension for the Office Action dated February 16, 2007.

Claim 1 was rejected as lacking an antecedent basis for the terms "the current position" and "the remote solenoid." Claim 1 has been amended to eliminate terms that lack an antecedent basis and for grammatical changes. Applicant respectfully submits that following such amendment, claim 1 is in condition for allowance.

Claims 2-4 were rejected as being dependent on rejected claim 1. Applicant respectfully submits that following the amendment to claim 1, claims 2-4 are in condition for allowance.

Claim 5 was rejected as being dependent on rejected claim 1. Applicant amends claim 5 to resolve any potential rejections for lack of antecedent basis due to the use of pronouns, as well as to clarify the language of claim 5. In light of Applicant's amendments to claims 1 and 5, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 5 is in condition for allowance.

Claim 6 was rejected as lacking an antecedent basis for the term "the shallow deployed depth." Claim 6 has been amended to substitute "the shallow position" for the rejected term, and such amendment finds an antecedent basis in claim 1. In light of Applicant's amendments to claims 1 and 6, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 6 is in condition for allowance.

Claim 7 was rejected as lacking an antecedent basis for the terms "the function of shallow position," and "the hydraulic power source," and "the set position of the shallow position."

Claim 7 has been amended to eliminate terms that lack antecedent basis and for grammatical changes. Applicant respectfully submits that following such amendment, claim 7 is in condition for allowance.

Claims 8-10 were rejected as being dependent on rejected claim 1. Claims 8 and 10 have been amended for clarity. Applicant respectfully submits that following the amendment to claim 1, claims 8-10 are in condition for allowance.

Claim 11 was rejected as lacking an antecedent basis for the term “the hydraulic control system.” Claim 11 has been amended to revise the rejected term to “the hydraulic position control system,” a term found in claim 1. Applicant respectfully submits that following such amendment, claim 11 is in condition for allowance.

Claim 13 was rejected as lacking an antecedent basis for the terms “the function of the shallow position,” “the function of the working position,” and “an input device.” Claim 13 was amended to clarify that three input devices are specified and to establish in the preamble an antecedent basis for the rejected claim terms. Applicant respectfully submits that following such amendment, claim 13 is in condition for allowance.

Claim 14 was rejected as lacking an antecedent basis for the term “hydraulic power source.” The rejected claim term was amended to read “hydraulic position control system,” which finds an antecedent basis in amended claim 13. Applicant respectfully submits that following such amendment, claim 14 is in condition for allowance.

Claim 15 was rejected as lacking an antecedent basis for the terms “hydraulic power source” and “the set position of the working position.” “Hydraulic power source” was amended to read “hydraulic position control system,” which finds an antecedent basis in amended claim 13. Claim 15 was further amended to provide an antecedent basis for all terms and also for

clarity. Applicant respectfully submits that following such amendment, claim 15 is in condition for allowance.

Claim 16 was rejected as lacking an antecedent basis for the term “hydraulic power source.” The rejected claim term was amended to read “hydraulic position control system,” which finds an antecedent basis in amended claim 13. Claim 16 was further amended for clarity as to the direction of travel of the components. Applicant respectfully submits that following such amendment, claim 16 is in condition for allowance.

Claim 18 was rejected as having three instances of the terms “hydraulic manifold,” “counter-balance valve,” and “solenoid activated valve.” Claim 18 has been revised to demonstrate that three distinct hydraulic manifolds are contemplated. An amendment to the preamble of claim 18 was also added to provide an antecedent basis for claims 19-21. Applicant respectfully submits that following such amendment, claim 18 is in condition for allowance.

Claims 19-21 were rejected for including terms that lacked antecedent basis. Claims 19-21 have been amended to ensure that all terms have an antecedent basis. Applicant respectfully submits that following such amendments, claims 19-21 are in condition for allowance.

Claims 25-26 have been added. Since the claims upon which claims 25 and 26 are allowable as rewritten, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 25 and 26 are in condition for allowance.

Claims 27-30 have been added. Claim 27 is an independent claim most similar to claim 13 and provides a hydraulic position control system having a single input device for selectively enabling the slaving of the working position and the shallow position. Dependent claims 28-30 address the various positions that may be selected with the single input device of new

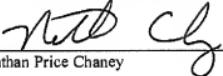
independent claim 27. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 27-30 are in condition for allowance.

According to the fee worksheet dated October 18, 2006, Applicant has previously paid fees for 22 total claims and 3 independent claims. The present amendment raises the number of total non-canceled claims to 25 and the number of non-canceled independent claims to 4. Accordingly, Applicant is paying fees of \$188 for 3 additional claims in excess of twenty and 1 independent claim in excess of three.

Applicant respectfully submits that the application is now in condition for allowance. To the extent the Examiner it would be helpful on other matters presented in this petition, counsel invites a telephone interview.

Respectfully submitted,

I hereby certify that this correspondence is
being filed electronically via the USPTO's
Registered EFS on 12-8-06.


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